UNITED STATES
CENTRAL COMMAND
Operation
Enduring Freedom

Overview

- *CENTCOM*
- *Command Surgeon*
- *Operation ENDURING FREEDOM*
- *Lessons Learned*
- *Challenges*
- *Questions*

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USCENTCOM Area of Responsibility

- **25 countries**
- **6.43 million square miles (16.13 million sq kilometers)**
- **Population: 522+ million**
- **Ethnic groups: 18**
- **Languages: 7 major, hundreds of dialects**
- **Per capita income: (U.S. $33,900)**
  Range from $530 to $24,000

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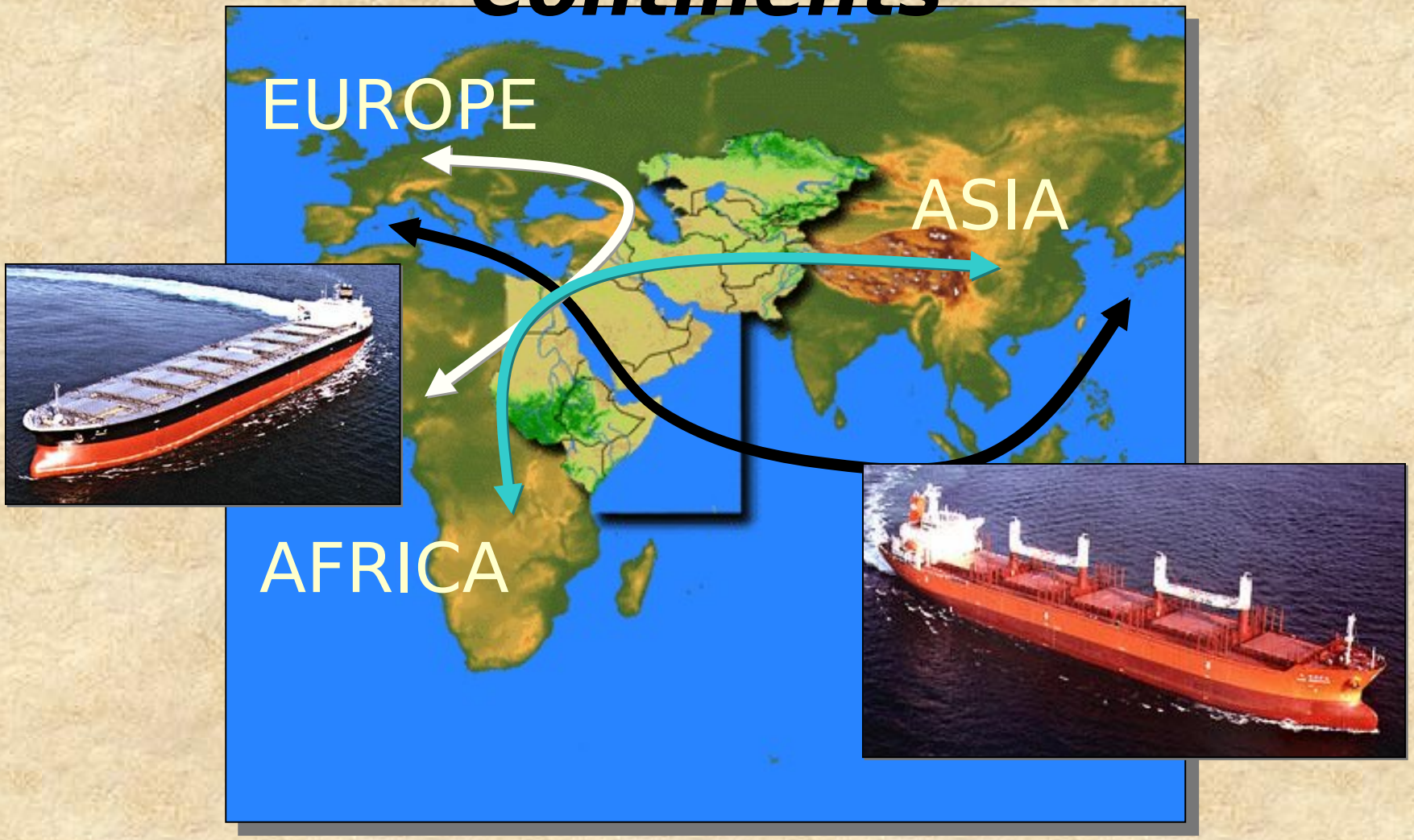
Central Region
Crossroads of Three Continents



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Air and Sea Distances

AIR
7,000 MI
24 HOURS

SEA
8,600 MI
20+ DAYS

SEA
12,000 MI
26+ DAYS

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Vital U.S. Regional Interests

- Access to and free flow of energ resources from the region
- Security of American citizens and property abroad
- Security of friends and allies and promotion of Middle East Peace Process
- Regional stability / required

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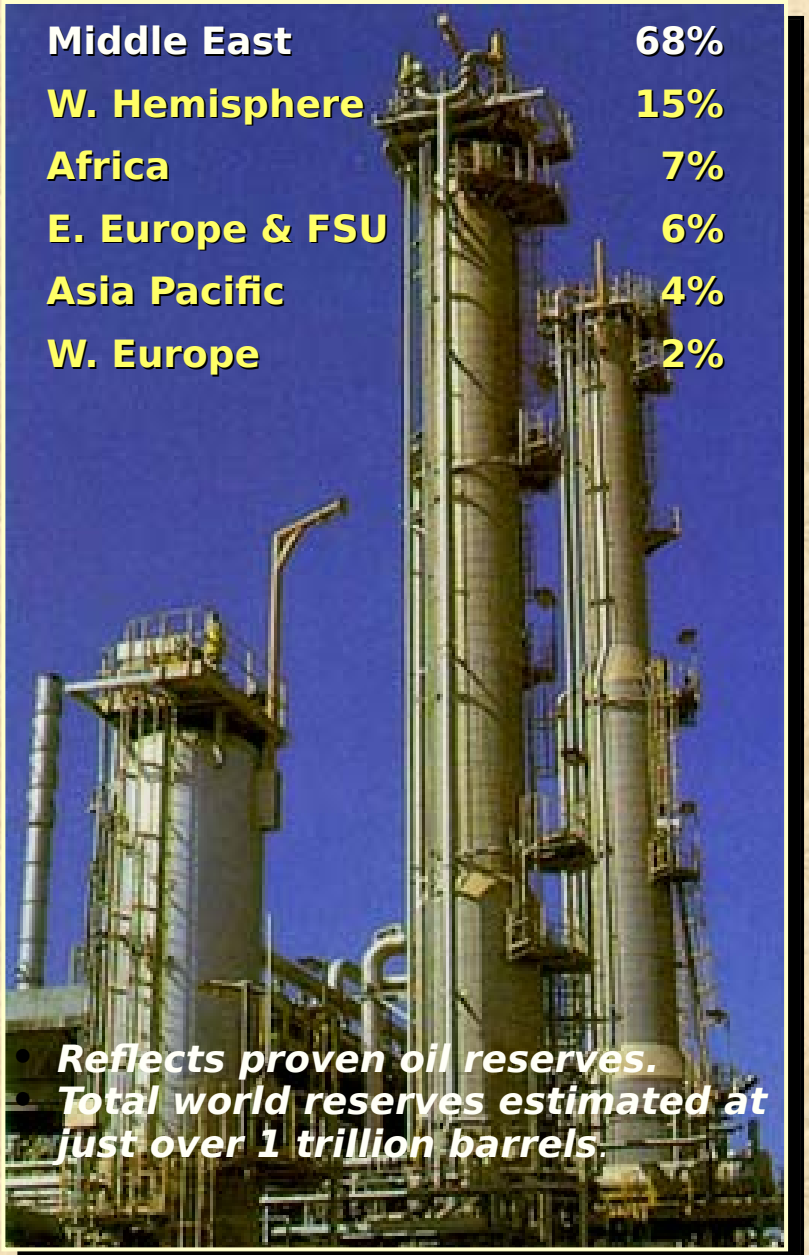
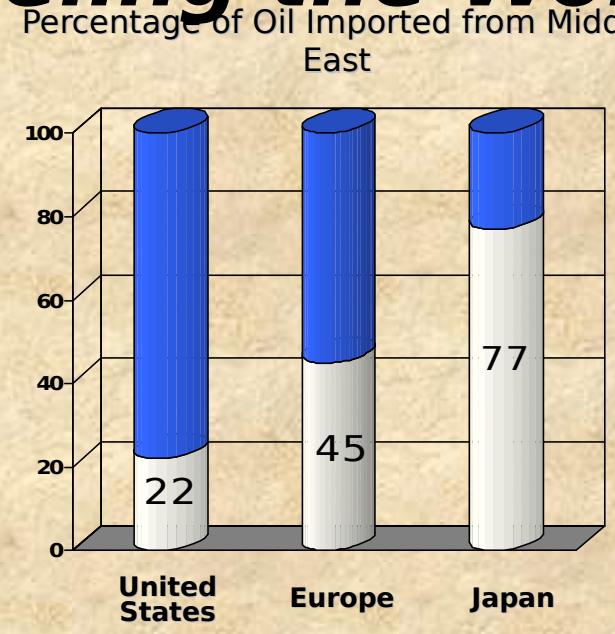
Energy Resources Fueling the World


Middle East 68%
W. Hemisphere 15%
Africa 7%
E. Europe & FSU 6%
Asia Pacific 4%
W. Europe 2%
• Reflects proven oil reserves.
• Total world reserves estimated at just over 1 trillion barrels.



- Reliance on gulf oil to rise dramatically
  - Middle East countries produce 32% of world's oil
- Regional stability and access to oil essential to global economy

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Threats in Theater

Hegemons

Terrorism

Weapons of Mass Destruction

Regional Stability Issues

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Iraq -- Short-term threat

- Hiding WMD capabilities
- Large conventional force
- Threat to Coalition aircraft

Iran -- Long-term threat

- Developing WMD programs
- Supporting extremists

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Bottom Line

Numerous threats to regional peace and stability

Economic, political and social turbulence

Territorial

Hegemons

WMD Proliferation

Local conflict

Humanitarian crises

Environmental “Stressors”

CENTCOM AOR:

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Command Surgeon's Mission

- **Coordinate military medical operations and medical support to the full spectrum of combat operations.**

- **Provide system integration and oversight with emphasis on:**
  - **Force Health Protection**
  - **Responsive and adequate medical capability**
  - **Synchronize component and coalition medical support**

- **Manage Theater Joint Blood Program**

- **Coordinate Inter and Intra Theater Patient Evacuation**

- **Anticipate and respond to emerging requirements and anticipate follow on missions**

Operation Enduring Freedom Overview

- ***Air campaign with unconventional operations***
- ***Integration of conventional operations***
- ***Multi-service, multi-national integrated medical system***
- ***Stretched doctrinal employment of medical units and combatant platforms***
- ***Dynamic battlespace / broad spectrum execution in multiple Lines of Operation***

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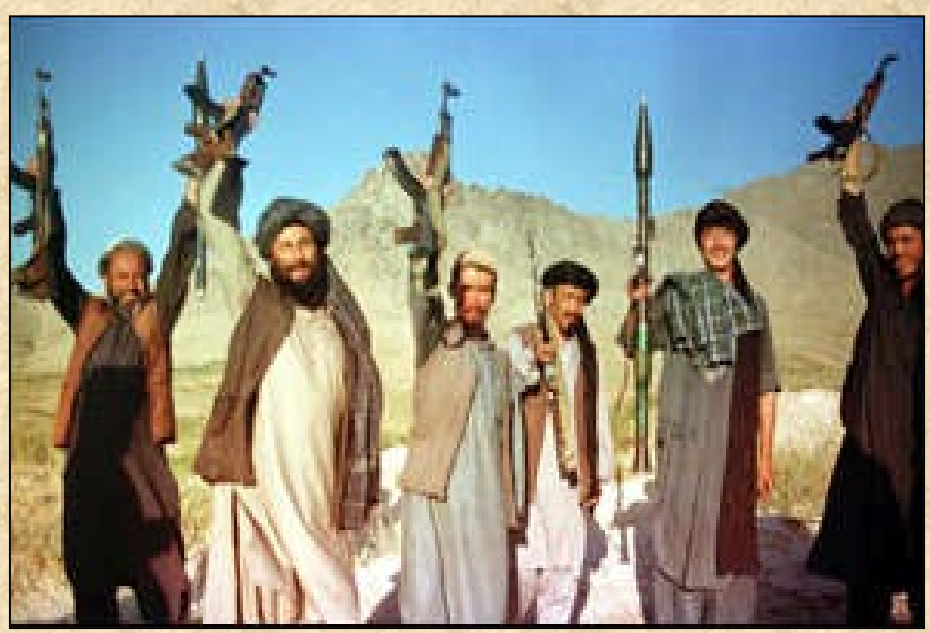
Firsts and Facts

- First Afghan National Army Battalion trained
- Music to Afghan people for first time in over 6 years
- Over half of PGMs dropped were GPS-guided JDAMS



- Forces in AOR: Over 66,000
  - Over 9,000 Coalition
- In Afghanistan:
  - Over 8,000 US
  - Over 6,500 Coalition (4,000 ISAF)
- Over 120 sensitive sites exploited
- Over 14,000 combat sorties
- Over 20,000 bombs dropped (50% PGM)
- Over 1.7M square meters of minefield cleared
- Over 19,000 airlift sorties
  - Over 3,000 Inter-Theater lift
    - 106 Blood shipments
  - Over 16,000 Intra-Theater lift
- Over 7,000 air refueling missions
- Over 150,000 people moved between 267 bases and ports
- Over 228,500 tons of cargo moved

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Medical Treatment

- **Validation of "Task Organized" Medical Response (FST, ASMC-, BSU-)**

- **Fwd Casualty Resuscitation**

- **Joint Operation/Integration of Service Assets (CCATT, MASF, FST/MFST, USN STP, SOF Medics)**

Bottom Line =

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Medical Treatment

- U.S. Medics Embedded in Fixed Coalition MTFs (Kuwait and French Hosp in Djibouti)
  - U.S. Blood Support

- Unprecedented Interaction and Coordination between U.S. and Coalition Medical Forces

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Blood Operations

One Blood Management Center & Two Blood Detachments serving 27 separate U.S. and Coalition accounts

US military facilities; USA, USN, USAF, SOF

- **Forward Surgical Teams**
- **Expeditionary Medical Systems**
- **Combat Support Hospitals**
- **Amphibious Assault Ships; LHA/LHD**

Coalition hospitals

- **Spanish**
- **Jordanian**
- **Afghan National Army Kabul**
- **Kuwait AF Hospital**
- **Bahrain Defense Force Hospital (Pending)**
- **Korean**
- **British**
- **French Hospital Djibouti**

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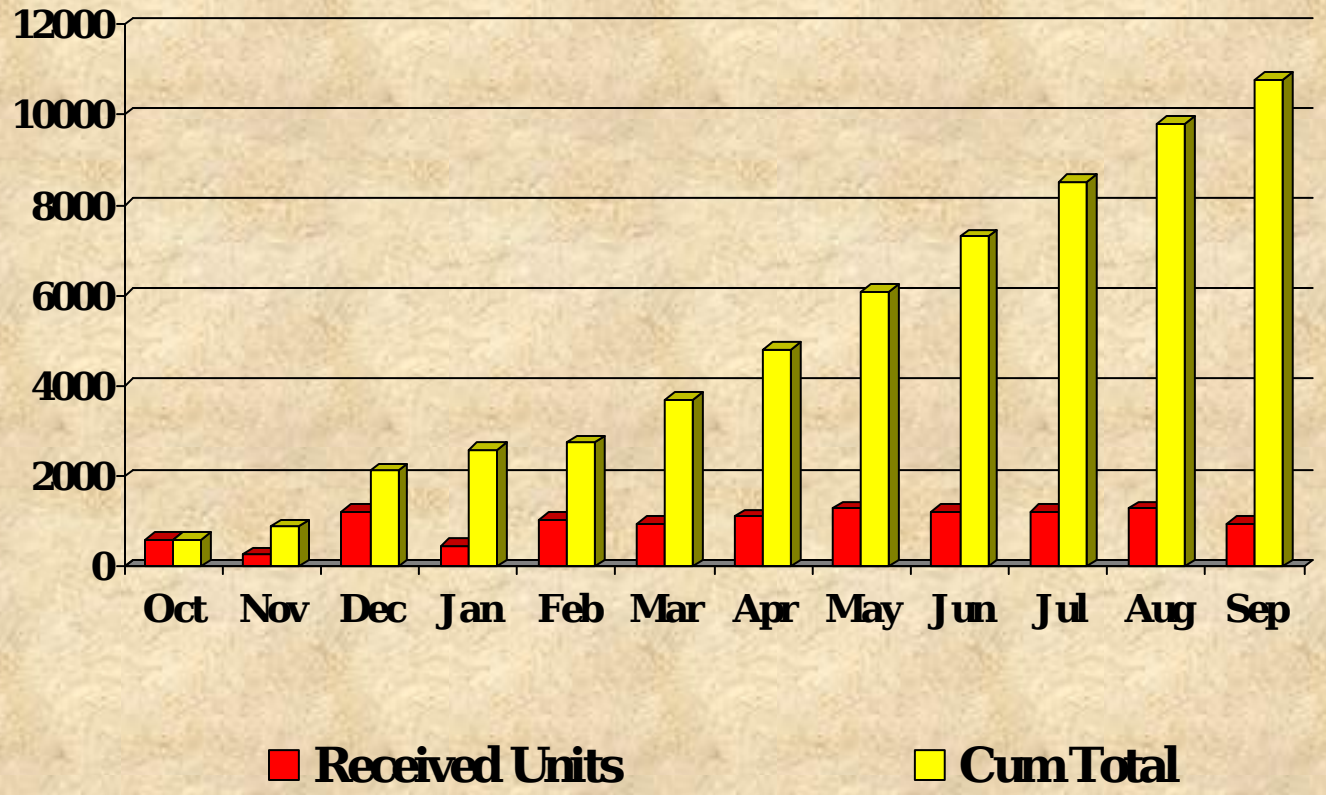
Total Units Received



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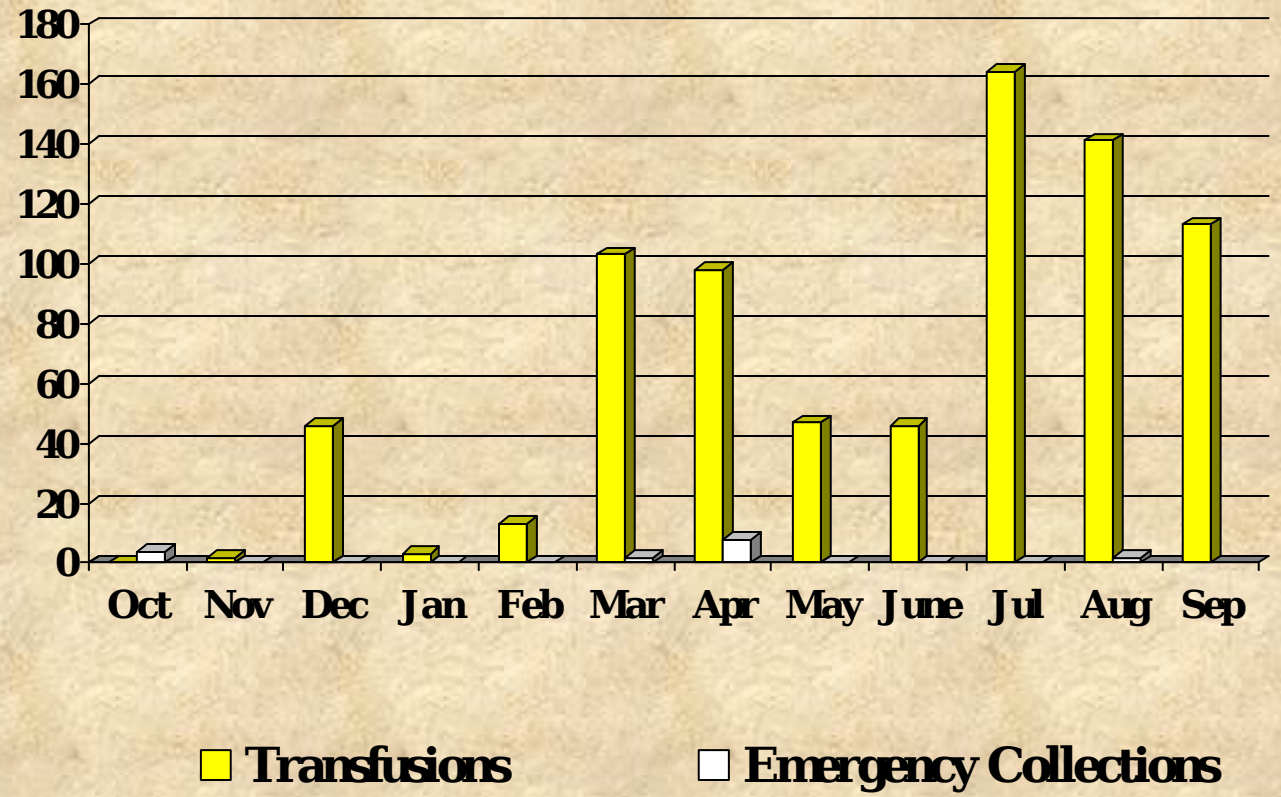
Blood Transfusion Data



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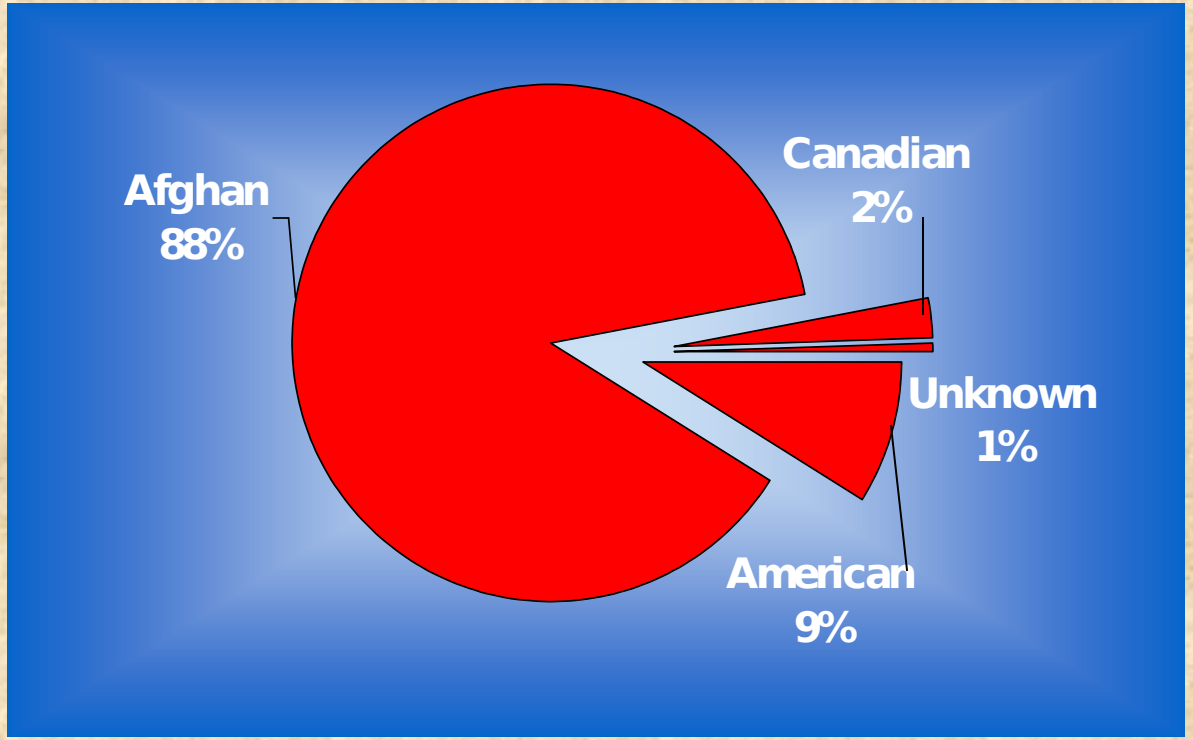
Transfused Blood

- Units transfused
  - Afghan 804
  - American 81
  - Canadian 22
  - Bosnian 3
  - Polish 3
  - Unknown 6



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Units Transfused

- 919 Units PRBC’s transfused. Approximately 8% of units shipped are transfused.
- 42 Units FFP transfused
- 16 Units of Walking Donor Whole Blood
- 6 deglycerolized units

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Challenges

- **Command and Control (C2) issues**
  - **HQ not forward & lack of infrastructure**
  - **Contingency AF Blood Transshipment Center (BTC) located separate from AF Beddown**
    - **6 enlisted personnel**
  - **Army Blood Detachment (-); Co-located with BTC**
    - **Long re-supply lines and only by Air**
  - **Joint Blood Program Officer (JBPO) as technical expert put in C2 role**

- **SEAMS:**
  - **Conventional Force/SOF Interface**
  - **AF Mobile Forward Surgical Team (MFST) = no blood storage capability, yet Level II capability??**
  - **Tasking Service Capabilities to Meet Joint Requirements**
    - **AF Blood Transshipment Center, Army BSU**
    - **JBPO owns no forces**

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Challenges

- **Inventory Management**
  - **Assumption of Risk; not enough vs too much (long, time consuming re-supply lines)**
- **Air-bridge difficulties:**
  - **Strategic path used, not preferred for blood product re-supply**
- **Theater Defense Blood Standard Computer System (TDBSS) fielding and FDA validation.**
- **Chemical Biological Radiological & Nuclear (CBRN) Vulnerability, Countermeasures and Reaction**

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Medical Way Ahead

- **Monitor Situation in Areas of Responsibility**
- **Modify Concept of Support and Align Resources**
- **Plan and Support Emerging and Future Operations**

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It's a Team Effort…

…It's a Tough

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